



People First

A Newsletter from State Representative Ryan Yamane

House District 37 • Mililani • Waipi'o Gentry • Waikaele

2017 Session

Rep. Yamane's Bill Protecting Our National Flood Insurance Coverage Passes

Act 070 FEMA Flood Protection Bill, a bill I introduced successfully passed into law which protects our National Flood Insurance Program funding to the State of Hawaii and protection of all of Hawaii's property owners. Last year, FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) threatened to suspend all of Hawaii's national flood insurance coverage if we did not fix our local laws by the end of 2017 Legislative Session. FEMA's threat to suspend their National Flood Insurance coverage would cancel 60,000 home flood insurance policies totaling **\$13.4 Billion** dollars in lost insurance coverage to property owners throughout our State. Due to the severity of this important issue, I worked with FEMA, the Counties, realtors, farmers, insurers, banks, and other stakeholders to collaborate to pass my bill, HB 1418, to fix Hawaii's building laws and save our homes and properties' from the cancellation of our insurance protection.

Water and Land Committee Legislative Accomplishments

I am happy to share with our community the many improvements and bills that passed this year, which I was fortunate to achieve, serving as the Chair of the House Water and Land Committee:

- **Act 133 Water Infrastructure Loans**, became law to make loans for the purchase and installation of water infrastructure improvements, equipment, tanks, irrigation, and property. This law enables private entities to purchase or install water infrastructure equipment for water distributions by establishing the Water Infrastructure Loan Program under the Department of Agriculture. The program was appropriated \$1.5 Million to provide loans to improve and upgrade water infrastructure to our local farmers and protect our precious drinking water.
- **Act 134 Dams & Reservoirs Special Purpose Revenue Bonds**, became law to broaden Hawaii's Special Purpose Revenue Bonds law. It provides state financial credit support to improve and upgrade Dams, Reservoirs, and other water infrastructure to preserve and protect our local water supply and allow for more local food production.
- **Act 209 Dept. of Land and Natural Resources Audit**, became law to audit the DLNR's use of the Special Land Development Fund and the Conservation Land Fund to ensure governmental accountability and transparency.
- **Act 141 Updating the State Building Code**, became law to update and adopt new, modern, building code requirements to ensure that Hawaii's buildings are safe and able to withstand disasters.
- **House Bill 839: Dept. of Land and Natural Resources Audit**, a bill I introduced passed the Legislature to audit the DLNR's use of the Special Land Development Fund and the Conservation Land Fund to ensure governmental accountability and transparency.

Aloha,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family well.

Please accept my heartfelt gratitude for allowing me to serve our community the last 13 years. My family and I are truly honored to be able to work on behalf of our community.

This year, I continue to serve as the House Chair on the Water and Land Committee, as well as served on the House Committees of Consumer Protection, and Energy and Environmental Protection.

My top priority as the Chair of Water and Land earlier this year was to pass legislation to encourage private-public partnerships, to protect our precious water resources and ensure our homes are protected during a disaster. As the Water and Land Chair, I also focused on balancing urban development while conserving our rural, agricultural, and natural resources.

*As the area Representative of our Central Oahu communities, I continue to be involved in exploring job growth, improving public safety, increasing access to healthcare, and investing in our community schools. I am proud to announce that our community will receive over **\$36 Million** in repair and maintenance projects for our schools, roadways, neighborhood infrastructure and other community projects. These are additional projects adding to those currently ongoing throughout our community. These projects are vital to support our children's education, our families' safety and maintaining the special beauty of Mililani, Waipio Gentry, and Waikaele.*

Thank you for all your support and your willingness to work together to make our community a better place to live, work, and play.

If you have any questions or ideas, please feel free to contact me by phone 808-586-6150 or email repyamane@capitol.hawaii.gov

With my warmest aloha,



I was fortunate to see the completion of Mililani's Solar Farm.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2017 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BUDGET SOLUTIONS

Hawaii's 2017-2019 State Budget

The economy is still the number one concern for many of our residents. The Legislature also crafted a responsible budget (**HB 100**) that addresses the state's long-term obligations while taking care of its immediate social services needs and capital improvement requirements. The budget is not just about expenses and revenues. Together with our long-term strategic financial plan, a thoughtful budget will also help fuel, direct, and shape a healthy and sustainable economy.

This year's State Budget responds to the pressing needs of Hawaii's people, while carefully scrutinizing expenses by appropriating funds to ensure that significant priorities are met and improve our infrastructure.

EDUCATING OUR KEIKI

Senate Bill 1286 Empowering the DOE to License Private Trade, Vocational, and Technical Schools

Requires the Department of Education to license private trade, vocational, and technical schools to allow those schools to comply with federal regulations or accreditation requirements. This program will allow high school graduates to qualify for professional licensure upon graduation.

House Bill 498 Expanding the Office of Early Learning

Expands the Office of Early Learning program to include underserved and at-risk four-year-old children served by the Preschool Open Doors program.

House Bill 937 Financing the Office of Early Learning

Appropriates \$300,000 to support the learning of Hawaii's young children.

House Bill 957 Cooling our Schools

Finances over \$46 Million to install energy-efficient lighting and air conditioning for Hawaii's public schools.

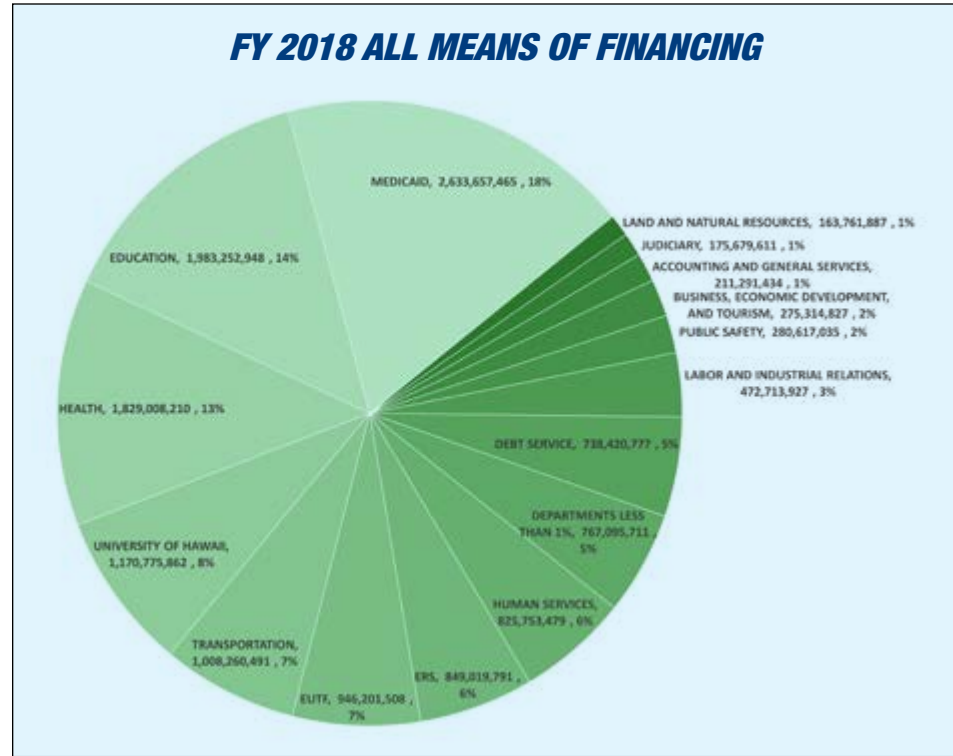
CARING FOR OUR 'AINA

HB 100 Restoring the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve

A project I championed appropriates \$3 Million for equipment to support Kaho'olawe's native dryland forest restoration.

House Bill 1578 Establishing a Carbon Farming Task Force

Establishes the Carbon Farming Task Force to identify agricultural, aquacultural,



and agroforestry practices, public land and marine use policies, and on-farm management practices to improve soil health and promote carbon sequestration in the Hawaii.

Senate Bill 559 Creating a Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission

Requires the State to expand strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions statewide according to the goals



Rep. Yamane talking at the International Training on Climate Risk Management in Thailand

adopted in the Paris Agreement, a treaty that 195 countries of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change have signed. Tasks the Commission with planning and establishing statewide climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies and goals.

House Bill 427 Establishing Dark Night Skies Protection Advisory Committee

Establishes a Dark Night Skies Protection Advisory Committee to assist the University of Hawaii in developing a statewide dark night skies protection strategy to preserve Hawaii's dark night skies.

IMPROVING HEALTHCARE FOR HAWAII

House Bill 912 Expanding APRN Care

Authorizes advanced practice registered nurses with prescriptive authority and who are certified in psychiatric specialization to provide psychiatric care and services to patients and minors.

House Bill 607 Caring for our Kupuna

Improves the care of elderly persons by authorizing the Executive Office on Aging to establish the Kupuna Caregivers Program to assist community members in obtaining care for elders while



Supporting our troops

remaining in the workforce and appropriating \$600,000 to establish and implement the Kupuna Caregivers Program.

House Bill 615 Establishing the Healthy Aging Partnership Program

Supports the health of older adults by appropriating \$500,000 for the Healthy Aging Partnership Program to improve the health and well-being of Hawaii's Kupuna.

House Bill 83 Creating the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness

Establishes a working group to examine and develop recommendations on establishing safe zones for persons experiencing homelessness.

STRENGTHENING OUR ECONOMY

Senate Bill 911 Expanding Hawaii's Affordable Rental Housing Loan

Assists residents in obtaining affordable rental housing by increasing the Hula Mae Multifamily loan to \$1.5 Million to provide affordable rental housing projects under the Hula Mae Multifamily Housing Loan and Mortgage Program.

House Bill 1382 Supporting Small Businesses

Supports small businesses by appropriating \$250,000 for a temporary small business assistance initiative, which would include the completion of the state small business database, small business advisory group, and a small business office within the State Procurement Office.

Senate Bill 119 Protecting Hawaii Renters

Provides additional protections for renters by establishing a cap of 8% on late rent payment fees where the rental agreement provides for a late charge.



Raising awareness on pedestrian safety at Waipahu Intermediate School.

SUPPORTING OUR MILITARY

House Bill 100 Upgrading Kalaeloa Utility Infrastructure

Appropriates \$10 Million to complete and improve the utility system for Hawaii National Guard operations in Kalaeloa to support our local troops.

House Bill 100 Upgrading Kalaeloa Electrical Infrastructure

Appropriates \$3 Million to complete and improve the electrical system for Hawaii National Guard operations in Kalaeloa to support our local troops.

House Bill 100 Improving Kalaeloa Airport Infrastructure

Appropriates \$3.3 Million to upgrade the runway lighting systems to support our Hawaii Air National Guard operations at Kalaeloa Airport.

House Bill 100 Upgrading National Guard Facilities Statewide

Appropriates \$1.7 Million to improve Hawaii National Guard facilities to be more energy efficient.

Appropriates \$16.5 Million to improve Hawaii National Guard readiness centers.

House Bill 942 Creating World War II Filipino Veterans Monument

Finances \$200,000 to build a monument to honor and commemorate Filipino



Congratulating Dave Shoji on his remarkable accomplishments as we recognize April 13, 2017 as "Dave Shoji Day".



Celebrating 100 years American Red Cross, Hawaii's Centennial Anniversary at Iolani Palace.

veterans of World War II and to select the location of the monument.

FIXING OUR ROADS

House Bill 115 Repairing Disputed Roads in Limbo

Requires the City & County of Honolulu to take ownership and jurisdiction over all roads for which ownership and jurisdiction are disputed between the State and a county or private party. Where no party has exercised ownership of a disputed road since July 1, 2012, this measure deems the road to have been surrendered to the county pursuant to an administrative order issued by the State Director of Transportation.

HONOLULU RAIL TRANSIT

Senate Bill 4 Financing Honolulu's Rail

After copious time and effort, the Senate and House of the Hawaii State Legislature came to an agreement on a law that would be ideal to assist funding the City and County of Honolulu to completing the Rail Transit System.

This law establishes a special fund so that funds that are collected be allocated into the Mass Transit Special Fund rather than simply give the money to the City, increase the TAT by 1% from 1/1/18 to 12/31/30 and allocates revenues to the special fund, extend the GET on Oahu for three additional years from 12/31/2027 to 12/31/2030, reduce the State Department of Taxation's administrative fee on the GET surcharge from 10% to 1%, requires the state auditor to conduct an audit and annual reviews of HART, and requires the comptroller to certify HART'S expenses.

This law is a compromise that is projected to raise approximately \$2.4 Billion over the next 13 years to fund the completion of rail.



**Representative
Ryan Yamane**

State Capitol
415 S. Beretania St.
Room 420
Honolulu, HI 96813



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How to contact me

**Representative
Ryan Yamane**

**415 South Beretania St.,
Room 420
Honolulu, HI 96813**

Email:
repyamane@capitol.hawaii.gov

Phone:
(808) 586-6150

Website:
http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov

Over \$36 Million in Projects Supporting Our Community

I am proud to announce that our community will receive over **\$36 Million** in repair and maintenance projects for our schools, roadways, and community infrastructure.

Collectively, our Mililani, Waipio, and Waikele schools will receive a combined total of **\$36 Million** in school improvement projects through our State Budget. These projects are vital to support our children’s education, our families’ safety and maintaining the special beauty of our Central and West Oahu communities.

Mililani, Waipio, and Waikele Projects in the State Budget

Kanoelani Elementary School \$800,000 <i>Design and construction of a new portable classroom building</i>	Mililani High School \$2,000,001 <i>Plans for a Performing Arts Center</i>
Waikele Elementary School \$1,400,000 <i>Design and construction of a new 6 classroom building</i>	Pearl City High School \$2,000,000 <i>Plans, design, and construction for KLM parking lot, Cafeteria parking lot, and a road to the band room</i>
Highlands Intermediate School \$47,000 <i>Library repairs</i>	Waipahu High School \$15,000,000 <i>Design and construction of a new classroom building</i>
Mililani Middle School \$11,500,000 <i>Design and construction of a new 15 classroom building</i>	Leeward Community College \$250,000 <i>Reroofing of Campus Theatre</i>
Waipahu Intermediate School \$600,000 <i>Plans and design for a multipurpose play court</i>	UH – West Oahu \$50,000 <i>Repair and renovation of the Campus Library</i>
Mililani High School \$350,000 <i>Plans and design to extend the Admin building</i>	UH – West Oahu \$2,500,000 <i>Renovation of the Maintenance building</i>

Total Funds for our communities in this year’s State Budget: \$36,497,001